

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A mould for continuously casting metal strips, comprising a pair of mould side walls (11) on opposite sides of an open-ended mould cavity (C) having an entrance end (E) for continuously receiving molten metal and an exit end (D) for continuously discharging a moving solidified strip (S) formed from the molten metal, each said mould side wall (11) including a graphite block (13), and further comprising a cooling system associated with each graphite block (13) and including coolant tubes (15) contacting the graphite block, ~~characterised in that~~ the graphite block (13) of each of said mould side walls (11) is formed of a stack of a multiplicity of elongate graphite laminae (16) having opposite faces (16A) and inner edges (16B), said inner edges (16B) jointly forming a surface (16A) directed toward the mould cavity (C), and in that the coolant tubes (15) ~~extend~~ extending through the stack transversely to said opposite faces (16A) of the graphite laminae (16) forming the stack.

2. (currently amended) A continuous-casting mould as claimed in claim 1, including a pair of metal end members (17) in face-to-face engagement with the outer face (16A) of respective ones of the two outermost graphite laminae (16C) of the stack, the coolant tubes (15) being received in said end members.

3. (currently amended) A continuous-casting mould as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the graphite laminae (16) of each stack are oriented such that their inner edges (16) extend between the entrance and exit ends (E, D) of the mould cavity (C), ~~whereby in operation of the mould~~ the coolant tubes (15) ~~extend~~ extending transversely of the direction of movement of the strip (S) discharging through the exit end (D) of the mould cavity during operation of the mould.

4. (currently amended) A continuous-casting mould as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~, claim 1 wherein a pair of opposed end walls (12) of the mould cavity

(C) are formed by a pair of graphite bars bridging the gap between said side walls (11) along the ends of the stacks of graphite laminae (16).

5. (currently amended) A continuous-casting mould as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~, claim 1 including for each of said mould side walls (11) a mould cavity lining member formed of a thin graphite plate supported by said stack of laminae (16).

6. (currently amended) A continuous-casting mould as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~, claim 1 including for each stack of graphite laminae (16) a stack-supporting plate (14) substantially coextensive with the stack.

7. (currently amended) A continuous-casting mould as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~, claim 1 wherein said graphite laminae (16) are made of compacted graphite flakes oriented so as to be generally parallel to said opposite faces (16A) of the graphite laminae.

8. (currently amended) A cooling device comprising a stack of a multiplicity of elongate graphite laminae (16) having opposed faces (16A) and inner edges (16B), said inner edges jointly forming a surface (13A) for receiving heat from an object to be cooled, and further comprising coolant tubes (15) extending through the stack transversely to said opposite faces (16A) of the laminae (16) forming the stack.